

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Ninety-Fifth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1951

**DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

SENATE

Tuesday, March 20, 1951.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Reverend Merle E. Golding of Augusta.

Journal of Friday, March 16th, 1951 read and approved.

Mr. Reid of Kennebec presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

STATE OF MAINE

In the Year of Our Lord Nineteen Hundred Fifty-One

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the State of Maine has ever sought to protect from waste and destruction her abundant natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the people of Maine with unselfish devotion have given of their time and effort to further the program of conserving those resources which are native to Maine and which have brought her fame; and

WHEREAS, the Kennebec Valley Garden Club and the Augusta Nature Club have rendered an invaluable service in the conservation of wild flowers, ferns, shrubs and trees to better preserve the interrelation between the forces of nature; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the members of the Senate and the members of the House of Representatives of the 95th Legislature, in recognition of the services well rendered in the compilation of a "Plant Conservation List for the State of Maine," Edition 1, 1951, compiled by the Kennebec Valley Garden Club and the Augusta Nature Club, in consultation with Dr. F. H. Steinmetz, Head of the Department of Botany and Entomology, University of Maine; Professor Fay Hyland, Department of Botany, University of Maine; Dr. Henry B. Peirson, State Entomologist, State of Maine Forest Service; Mr. Edward Johnson, State Horticulturist, State of Maine, deeply appreciate the service rendered by the above named clubs and people and commend the results of their diligent labors to the people of the State of Maine; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the

Kennebec Valley Garden Club and the Augusta Nature Club.

The motion prevailed and the Resolution was adopted.

Sent down for concurrence.

From the House

The Committee on Business Legislation on Bill "An Act to Authorize Savings Banks to Invest in the Stock of Insurance Companies," (H. P. 1402) (L. D. 1013) reported that the same ought to pass.

The Committee on Correctional Institutions on Bill "An Act Relating to Incurable Inmates in Reformatory for Men," (H. P. 403) (L. D. 247) reported that the same ought to pass.

Which reports were severally read and accepted in concurrence, the bills read once and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

"Resolve in Favor of W. I. Hamilton, of Bath." (H. P. 1648)

Which was referred to the Committee on Claims in concurrence.

"Resolve in Favor of Antonio Bosse of Lewiston." (H. P. 1654)

Which was referred to the Committee on Welfare in concurrence.

Communication

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Office of the Clerk
Augusta

March 16, 1951

Hon. Chester T. Winslow
Secretary of the Senate
95th Legislature

Sir:

The Speaker appointed the following Conferees on the part of the House on the disagreeing action of the two branches of the Legislature on Bill "An Act Relating to Licensing Cats," (H. P. 1508) (L. D. 1103)

Messrs: DICKEY of Brooks
BROWN of Baileyville
ROLLINS of Greenville

Respectfully

HARVEY R. PEASE
Clerk of the House.

Which was read and ordered placed on file.

Senate Committee Reports

Mr. Brewer of Aroostook from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on Bill "An Act Relating to Salaries of Members of Employment Security Commission," (S. P. 295) (L. D. 654) reported that the same ought not to pass, as it is covered by other legislation.

Mr. Ward from the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act to Provide for the Surrender by Dallas Plantation of Its Organization," (S. P. 273) (L. D. 612) reported that leave be granted to withdraw the same.

Which reports were severally read and accepted.

Sent down for concurrence.

Mr. Weeks from the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act Repealing Running Horse Racing," (S. P. 134) (L. D. 242) reported that the same ought not to pass.

On motion by Mr. Barnes of Aroostook, tabled pending acceptance of the report.

Mr. Ward from the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Relating to Financing Conditional Sales or Mortgages of Personal Property," (S. P. 239) (L. D. 509) reported the same in a new draft (S. P. 509) under a new title, Bill "An Act Relating to Time Sales on Motor Vehicles," and that the same be printed and recommitted to the Committee on Judiciary.

Which report was read and accepted and the bill in new draft and under new title tabled for printing under Joint Rule No. 10, subsequently recommitted to the Committee on Judiciary.

Mr. Brewer from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on "Resolve Appropriating Moneys for Replacement and Conversion of Certain Elevators at the Bangor State Hospital," (S. P. 293) (L. D. 652) reported that the same ought to pass.

The same Senator from the same Committee on Bill "An Act Relating to Interest of Madawaska Territory School Fund," (S. P. 291) (L. D. 650) reported that the same ought to pass.

Mr. Reid from the same Committee on Bill "An Act Relating to

Clerical Assistance for Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court," (S. P. 154) (L. D. 329) reported that the same ought to pass.

The same Senator from the same Committee on Bill "An Act Relating to Compensation of Justices of the Supreme Judicial and the Superior Courts Upon Retirement," (S. P. 155) (L. D. 328) reported that the same ought to pass.

Which reports were severally read and accepted, the bills and resolve read once, and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Mr. Brewer from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on Bill, an Act Appropriating Moneys for Anticipated Overdrafts in the Department of Labor and Industry Due to Insufficient Appropriations (S. P. 266) (L. D. 605) reported that the same ought to pass as amended by Committee Amendment A.

Which report was read and accepted and the bill read once. The Secretary read Committee Amendment A: Committee Amendment A to L. D. 605. "Amend said bill by striking out in the 16th line the figures \$3,000 and inserting in place thereof the figures \$2,000."

Which amendment was adopted and the bill as so amended was tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Mr. Haskell from the Committee of Legal Affairs on Bill, An Act Relating to the Superintending School Committee of the Town of Houlton, (S. P. 30) (L. D. 660) reported that the same ought to pass as amended by Committee Amendment A.

Which report was read and accepted and the bill read once. The Secretary read Committee Amendment A: Committee Amendment A to L. D. 660. "Amend said bill by adding at the end thereof a new paragraph to read as follows: 'Referendum. This act shall take effect 90 days after the adjournment of the legislature only for the purpose of permitting its submission to the qualified voters of the town of Houlton at its next annual town meeting held not later than one year after the effective date of this act.—'

At this point, on motion by Mr. Barnes of Aroostook, Committee Amendment A was adopted without further reading and the bill as so amended was tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Order

On motion by Mr. Crosby of Franklin, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the following bills be recalled from the Governor to the Senate: H. P. 757, L. D. 466, An Act to Incorporate the Kingfield Water District. H. P. 1036, L. D. 564, An Act Relating to the Number of Voting Districts. H. P. 1504, L. D. 1057, An Act to Incorporate the Porters Landing Water District.

Sent down for concurrence.

Passed to be Engrossed

"Resolve Appropriating Moneys to Obtain Plasma." (H. P. 869) (L. D. 517)

"Resolve in Favor of State Military Defense Commission." (H. P. 871) (L. D. 519)

Bill "An Act Relating to Expenses of the Reporter of Decisions." (H. P. 955) (L. D. 567)

Bill "An Act Relating to Inspection of Children's Homes." (H. P. 1142) (L. D. 674)

(On motion by Mr. Leavitt of Cumberland, tabled pending passage to be engrossed.)

Bill "An Act Describing the Jefferson-Somerville Town Line, Lincoln County." (H. P. 1190) (L. D. 718)

Bill "An Act Relating to Recording of Highway Maps." (H. P. 1239) (L. D. 791)

Bill "An Act Relating to Savings Banks." (H. P. 1253) (L. D. 827)

Bill "An Act Relating to Funeral Expenses Under Old Age Assistance." (H. P. 1285) (L. D. 823)

Which were severally read a second time and passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

"Resolve in Favor of Caswell Plantation." (H. P. 1259) (L. D. 1191)

Which was read a second time and passed to be engrossed, as amended, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Relating to State Aid to Towns Maintaining Eve-

ning School." (S. P. 229) (L. D. 501)

"Resolve Regulating Fishing in Sourdnahunk and Little Sourdnahunk Lakes in the County of Piscataquis." (S. P. 233) (L. D. 504)

Bill "An Act Relating to Authorized Amount of Endowment for Bridge Academy in the Town of Dresden." (S. P. 318) (L. D. 719)

Which were severally read a second time and passed to be engrossed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Orders of the Day

Mr. Noyes of Hancock was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate.

Mr. NOYES: Mr. President and members of the Senate, Sunday afternoon the selectmen of the town of Hancock called upon me relative to the town meeting held the previous week. At that meeting the warrant was properly drawn but the constable failed to make a return on the warrant. They secured advice from attorneys who advised them that the actions of the town meeting were probably illegal. Therefore, in order to validate the actions that they took it is necessary for this legislature to ratify them and make them legal.

At that town meeting there was no action taken to which the voters of the town took issue or have taken issue up to the present time, but it was feared by the assessors and selectmen that in the event they go ahead and assess taxes someone may raise objection and they will be unable to collect them. I have discussed the matter with the Attorney General and it is his opinion that it is the only thing we can do, and as this is in the nature of an emergency in that taxes are assessed as of April 1st, I ask unanimous consent to present a bill.

There being no objection, Mr. Noyes of Hancock presented bill, An Act Ratifying the Town Meeting in the Town of Hancock, and on motion by the same Senator, under suspension of the rules, the bill received and was given its two several readings and passed to be engrossed without reference to a committee.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Barnes of Aroostook, the Senate voted to take from the table bill, An Act Authorizing the Trustees of the University of Maine to Operate a College of Medicine (S. P. 268) (L. D. 607) tabled by that Senator on March 2nd pending assignment for second reading.

The PRESIDENT: This bill having been tabled by the Senator from Aroostook, Senator Barnes, pending assignment for second reading, the Chair will now assign it for tomorrow for second reading.

Mr. McCUSICK of Piscataquis: Mr. President and members of the Senate, if it is in order I would like to make a statement from the committee in regard to this bill.

This measure was presented at the Committee hearing purely as enabling legislation. The expressed purpose of its proponents was that an instrument be created whereby gifts, endowments or any other monies might be received for the construction or operation of a medical school in Maine. It was expressly stated by the proponents at the Committee hearing that this measure asked no appropriation from the State at this time. There can be no doubt as to the desirability of a medical school in Maine if it can be built and operated without expense to the State. With the limited resources of Maine there is a serious question whether we should attempt to build and support a medical school at State expense.

This question of whether a medical school should be constructed and operated wholly or partly at State expense was not before the Committee and was not discussed, and that question is not before this Legislature. The Committee report and favorable action on this bill indicate only their assent to it for the purposes for which it was presented. It certainly should not and does not indicate that we are in favor of a State appropriation to support a medical school in Maine.

This bill is an enabling act to be passed only for the purpose of setting up and operating said medical school in the event that monies become available through gift or endowment from any sources other than State appropriation.

Mr. BARNES of Aroostook: Mr. President, I am not sure on my point of order and I therefore ask unanimous consent to address the Senate.

The PRESIDENT: The Senator from Aroostook, Senator Barnes, asks unanimous consent to address the Senate. Is there objection? The Chair hears no objection and the Senator may proceed.

Mr. BARNES: Mr. President and members of the Senate, the sole purpose for which I tabled this bill on March 2nd was because I realized the stringent financial condition of the State and I also realize that our state university, of which we are all justly proud, is coming to this legislature asking for additional funds to run the various departments that are now handled so efficiently and therefore I wanted an opportunity to study the bill and talk with members of the Committee to determine whether or not there was an indication that now, or even in the future, it would require the appropriating of state tax dollars.

I have satisfied myself that there is no such indication in the bill and that the only reason for passing it at this time is to have a set-up so that in the future if some Hetty Green or some other philanthropist should decide to will enough money to the state to set up, maintain and operate a medical school we would have a vehicle whereby that might be accomplished. And for that reason I have this morning taken the bill off the table and will in no way offer any objection to its ultimate passage.

On motion by Mr. Crosby of Franklin, the Senate voted to take from the table bill, An Act to Appropriate Monies for the Expenditures of State Government and for Other Purposes for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1952, and June 30, 1953 (S. P. 495) (L. D. 1196) tabled by that Senator on March 15 pending assignment for 2nd reading.

Mr. CROSBY of Franklin: Mr. President and Senators, I realize that the Appropriations Committee has done a great deal of work and I think have come out with exceptionally fine report. I am going

to suggest this morning that the Chair lay before the Senate this Appropriation bill, department by department commencing with Accounts and Control and going right through, because I feel that a good part of this Appropriation bill will be accepted by the Senate without amendment and this may facilitate the handling of the bill and also perhaps keep it moving along a little better .

The PRESIDENT: If there is no objection, the Chair, will go through the bill Section by Section and if any Senator wishes to debate or offer amendment to any section he will be free to do so.

The Chair lays before the Senate the 1st item, Appropriations for the Bureau of Accounts and Control, Department Operations.

Mr. HASKELL of Penobscot: Mr. President, I realize that the procedure ought to be that generally determined by the Appropriations Committee, but as we go through these items I think it would be helpful if some member of the Appropriations Committee could explain the increases or decreases even though they are minor. In this case it is a matter roughly of nineteen thousand dollars. Very likely the Appropriations Committee doesn't have notes on all of them. Maybe this is such a figure that it doesn't need explanation. But I think it would be helpful if all of us understood why Accounts and Controls should go up \$19,000 for operations and the Adjutant General's Department should go up \$34,000.

I offer this simply as a suggestion and the Appropriation Committee may accept or reject it as they wish.

Mr. BREWER of Aroostook: Mr. President, in conformity with the request of the Senator from Penobscot, I will say that in the Bureau of Accounts and Control, this is for new machines and materials to continue the operations as they now exist. Materials have increased considerably in price and we have some machinery that is not qualified to do the work that a later type machine would do. For this reason that is the increase in this particular department.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair lays before the Senate the next item: Department of Adjutant General.

If there is no discussion, the Chair will go on to the next section: Department of Agriculture.

Mr. GREELEY of Waldo: Mr. President, there is one question I would like to ask on the retirement of interest and principal of Bangs Disease bonds. There is no appropriation there and I don't understand the \$45,000 the last biennium.

Mr. LEAVITT of Cumberland: Mr. President, Senator Brewer has asked me to comment on this question but I did not hear the question that was asked.

The PRESIDENT: The Senator has asked about the retirement of interest and principal of Bangs Disease bonds. I think he is under misapprehension.

Mr. BREWER of Aroostook: Mr. President, that does not involve any appropriation. If you follow along, you will see that there is no money requested and none given. Does that explain the situation? The bonds are already taken care of.

The PRESIDENT: If there is no further discussion, the Chair lays before the Senate the next item:

Apprenticeship Council.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Mr. REID of Kennebec: Mr. President, I think if we are going along with this department by department, the members ought to realize that in the budget document, is contained the departmental requests, and we ought to read the budget document along with this bill. Going back to the Adjutant General's Department, the department request was \$192,918 for the year 1951-52 and \$192,746 for 1952-53. So that it can easily be seen that the Appropriation bill cut the request way back even though it might have added a bit to the budget bill. This is going to be true, with the exception of Health and Welfare and Education, this is going to be true in almost every case. There will be a cut back in departmental requests. One reason for the additions to the budget recommendations that have been made by the Appropriations Committee is that the budget

recommendation was made as of October of last year.

The change in the financial situation, the cost of living, are the reason for the number of small increases over the budget recommendation. I don't believe the members of the Senate can get a true picture of the appropriations bill unless they follow along and see what the department request was in each case.

Mr. PALMER of Lincoln: Mr. President, I just want to ask one question. As we proceed through this bill and dispose of the Bureau of Accounts and Control, Agriculture, and so forth, am I safe in assuming that this means the approval of the Senate on these issues or are we just having a preliminary discussion of the bill.

The PRESIDENT: The entire bill will be open to amendment until it is passed to be engrossed.

The next item is that of the Attorney General.

Mr. BREWER of Aroostook: Mr. President and members of the Senate, you will see that there is an increase in the Department of Attorney General. Under the old system different lawyers were assigned to different departments, sometimes part of their salaries were paid by these departments. What Mr. LaFleur asked was that the salaries be paid by his department and that he sign a special attorney to this or that department. He felt that they would have better control and be able to do better work.

He also pointed out to us that he felt that with this set-up he could collect a lot of money that in the past he had not been able to get around to so to speak, so with that thought in mind, and since he was new we felt that if he had the set-up that he asked for, he could offset any increase that we might give him. Some of us may be back here two years from now and if he hasn't done a good job, we may be looking for cuts in that department.

The PRESIDENT:

Audit.

Banks and Banking.

Boxing Commission.

Charitable Institutions.

Civil Defense Agency.

Contributions and Transfers to Other Funds.

Maine Development Commission.
Mr. LEAVITT of Cumberland: Mr. President, as you know, the different departments were heard in the same order as we are hearing them now. At the time the Development Commission was heard, there was no intimation as to how large an appropriation bill would come out, and there was a feeling in the committee that expenditures should be held down to as low a point as possible. However, there was expressed in committee, feeling that if there were any place where money should be spent for the good of the State of Maine, it was in this department but that unless there was to be a major tax bill, we would have to hold this appropriation down to the amount recommended by the Governor.

The department request was \$500,000. It was felt by several of us that in this time of emergency with government orders being placed throughout the nation, that if there were any time when the Development Commission should be alert to developing the State of Maine, that time was now.

Although there was no vote taken, there were several in the committee who said that if we were to have a tax bill this year, they would favor giving the Development Commission \$500,000 instead of \$300,000 and therefore, I submit Committee Amendment A and move its adoption.

The Secretary read Committee Amendment A.

Senate Amendment "A" to L. D. 1196. Amend said bill by striking out that part which relates to 'Maine Development Commission' and inserting in place thereof the following: 'Maine Development Commission Departmental Operations 500,000 500,000.'

Mr. HASKELL of Penobscot, Mr. President, without speaking for or against the Senator's amendment, I would make the observation that there might be great merit in tabling these amendments so that we may have in front of us all of the amendments. We might go at it more intelligently if we could consider each amendment and its comparative value to all other amendments which will be offered.

Thereupon, on motion by Mr. Leavitt of Cumberland, Senate Amendment A was laid upon the table pending consideration.

The PRESIDENT: The Department of Education is the next for consideration.

Mr. FULLER of Penobscot: Mr. President and members of the Senate, in relation to the item of Department of Education which provides for the appropriation of educational aid to cities, towns, plantations and community school districts, it seems that in the minds of many in the legislature in addition to the need of simplifying our subsidy formula, so-called, there is also considerable merit in adopting a law that the State could pay one hundred cents on the dollar. I wonder if it is going to be to our advantage to eliminate existing laws which for a number of years have not been financed a hundred cents on the dollar and substitute in their place a law which could be financed, or would be financed, under present appropriations at a fewer number of cents on the dollar.

With the object of providing a basis for discussion in regard to this major item I am going to offer Senate Amendment B and move its adoption.

The PRESIDENT: The Senator from Penobscot, Senator Fuller, presents Senate Amendment B and moves its adoption. The Secretary will read the amendment.

The Secretary read "Senate Amendment B to Senate Paper 495, Legislative Document 1196, An Act to Appropriate Monies for the Expenditures of State Government and Other Purposes for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30th, 1952, and June 30, 1953.

"Amend said bill by striking out under the part of said bill which relates to 'Education, Department of' the following: 'Subsidies to Cities and Towns: For General Purpose Educational Aid to Cities, Towns, Plantations and Community School Districts 4,570,611 4,570,611. For School Census 555,030 566,530' and inserting in place thereof the following: 'Subsidies to Cities and Towns: For General Purpose Educational Aid to Cities, Towns, Plantations and Community School Districts 6,322,756 6,322,756.'"

Thereupon, on further motion by the same Senator, Senate Amendment B was laid upon the table pending consideration.

The PRESIDENT: The next department for consideration is the Executive Department; the next is Department of Finance; the next is the Fish and Game Department; the next is the Department of Forestry. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Franklin, Senator Crosby.

Mr. CROSBY of Franklin: Mr. President and members of the Senate, under the Forestry Bill there was set up by the Appropriations Bill under "White Pine Blister Rust" some twenty thousand dollars, which was more than the Commissioner asked for. At the same time the "Aid to Small Woodland Owners" was decreased somewhat from what he asked. Now, all moneys appropriated for aid to small woodland owners is matched dollar for dollar by the federal government and it is one of the programs we are very anxious to carry out as far as possible, so I am submitting an amendment to this bill, Amendment C, which will take five thousand dollars from the white pine blister rust fund and apply it to the aid of small woodland owners. I present Senate Amendment C and move its adoption.

The Secretary read the amendment:

"Senate Amendment "C" to L. D. 1196. Amend said bill by striking out that part which relates to 'Forestry Department' and inserting in place thereof the following: 'Forestry Department. Departmental Operations 18,400 17,000, State Forest Nursery 5,600 6,000, Aid to Towns for Forest Fires 45,000 45,000, Control of White Pine Blister Rust 15,000 15,000, General Forestry Purposes 159,420 159,597, Aid to Small Woodland Owners 25,000 25,000, Entomology 76,863 75,831, Total Forestry Department 345,283 343,428.'"

Thereupon, on further motion by the same Senator, Senate Amendment C was laid upon the table pending consideration.

Mr. HASKELL of Penobscot: Mr. President, I apologize for rising again and I do so only for the rea-

son that when the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Leavitt, suggested his amendment it was very easy to see that it would increase the total by two hundred thousand dollars a year. I think there would be some merit in asking those who present amendments to give us the amount by which their amendment, if passed, would increase the budget.

In the amendment of the Senator from Oxford, Senator Fuller, I could not catch the figures as read by the Secretary quickly enough and neither could I in the amendment presented by the Senator from Franklin. If those Senators offering amendments would tell us how much their amendment increases or decreases the budget we could keep a reasonably good score card.

Mr. FULLER of Oxford: By eliminating or deleting the amount of \$555,000 the first year and \$566,530 the next year from the per capita tax and including that under the General Purpose Educational Aid item the proposed amendment would call for \$1,197,115 the first year and \$1,185,615 the second year, the remainder being taken care of by deleting the per capita amount which was included in the appropriations bill and adding that to the General Purpose Educational Aid item.

Mr. CROSBY of Franklin: The amendment on the forestry bill would set up an additional five thousand dollars for Aid to Small Woodland Owners and would change the General Purpose for that Department to the extent of five thousand dollars additional.

The PRESIDENT: The next item for consideration is the G. A. R.,

Health and Welfare, Department of:

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Bureau of Health | 319,637 | 322,298 |
| Sanitary Water Board | 15,000 | 15,000 |
| General Administration, Welfare | 435,131 | 435,842 |
| Aid to Blind | 172,000 | 179,000 |
| Services for Blind | 85,851 | 87,163 |
| Aid to Dependent Children | 1,200,000 | 1,260,000 |
| Board and Care of Neglected Children | 1,142,521 | 1,197,566 |
| Aid to Public and Private Hospitals | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 |
| Passamaquoddy Indians | 72,915 | 73,279 |
| Penobscot Indians | 49,153 | 49,153 |
| Support of State Paupers | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 |
| Old Age Assistance—Benefits | 3,215,325 | 3,411,825 |
| Old Age Assistance—Burials | 60,000 | 60,000 |
| Special Pensions | 80,000 | 78,000 |

Department of Maine; the next is the Health and Welfare Department.

Mr. McKUSICK of Piscataquis: Mr. President and members of the Senate, for the reason that under the Health and Welfare Department the appropriation for Direct Relief for State Aid Paupers is so far lacking in enabling the state to carry out this obligation to the towns in refunding money expended by the towns as provided by the statutes, and as under the appropriation for Aid to Dependent Children which is based on the premise that two categories would be eliminated entirely—that is, the children of families where there is divorce or legal separation—the reduction, I believe, would not save the State any appreciable amount, if any. It would put a burden on the towns of probably more than a million dollars in the biennium and cause suffering on the part of needy dependents. And for the same reason, under Aid for Private Hospitals I feel the appropriation is so inadequate that it is going to put a very heavy burden, especially on the small towns. Those are cases which cannot be anticipated and are usually large bills, and they have a tendency to throw the economies, especially of our small towns, out of balance. For those reasons I offer Senate Amendment D.

The Secretary read the amendment: "Senate Amendment D to H. P. 495, L. D. 1196.

"Amend said bill by striking out that part which relates to 'Health and Welfare, Department of' and inserting in place thereof the following:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| General Relief—Jefferson Camp | 55,336 | 51,903 |
| Total Health and Welfare | 8,902,869 | 9,221,029 |

The appropriations for Indian Tribes are in lieu of all other incomes, and receipts from Trust Funds shall be credited to the General Fund.’”

Mr. McKUSICK of Piscataquis: Mr. President, I think the increase is \$400,000 for each year of the biennium on direct relief to State Paupers, and for the Aid to Dependent Children \$480,000 for the first year and \$504,000 for the second year of the biennium. Under Hospital Aid it adds \$250,000 each year.

Mr. BOYKER of Oxford: Mr. President and members of the Senate, I would like to speak just a few moments on the cut which has been made by our Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee in the financial requirements of our Health and Welfare Department. Now, I believe that cut is justified and I believe that what they have done will in the end benefit the taxpayers of our state, and that by doing this it will influence our Health and Welfare Department to discharge at least two thirds of their field workers and others and retain only those who are willing to give as much of their time to our neglected children and applicants for old age assistance as they do to other functions of our state, and then we will have accomplished something.

Now we have a law for our Health and Welfare Department where they can go to a bank and determine the financial standing of the daughter of a recipient, but there is no law which will give them authority to take one cent of her money and give it to her father or mother. What the taxpayers of our state do not like today is for the Health and Welfare Department to spend days and days and dollars and dollars in trying to do something which they know by law they cannot do.

Now, our federal government has no money. Our state government has no money. It is the taxpayer who is the bank of our nation today, and the taxpayers of the State of Maine are paying their share for the mink coats and Florida hotel expenses of employees of our federal government. Our federal gov-

ernment has, through our Health and Welfare Department, the right to come into our towns and our cities and investigate the conditions under which their citizens are living, and they send a bill, not only for investigation but for whatever finances they have given to any citizen through this investigation.

Our federal government, as we know today and have known for several years, is leading our nation on the road to socialization, through the government and that generous, liberalizing, giver of all good things, good old Harry Truman. We know any money the federal government gives to our state through the Health and Welfare Department we pay back two dollars for every one. Good old Harry.

Now, I hope and I feel that in the near future the State of Maine will put restrictions on the federal government stepping into our cities and our towns and assuming the privileges, the responsibilities and functions under which their citizens have lived and prospered in the past.

Mr. ELA of Somerset: Mr. President, was the proposed amendment put on the table or is it still under discussion?

The PRESIDENT: Senate Amendment “D” relating to Health and Welfare is still before the Senate and open to debate.

On motion by Mr. Greeley of Waldo, Senate Amendment “D” was laid upon the table pending consideration.

Mr. ELA of Somerset: Mr. President, under the line designated Old Age Assistance Benefits for the Department of Health and Welfare I am going to propose an amendment changing the figures from 3,215,325 for 1941-1952 to 2,900,000; and for the years 1952-53 changing the figures from 3,411,825 to 2,800,000. Briefly, my reasons are these: About November 1st last a new federal social security amendment was enacted into law by which many of the old age recipients now receive

larger amounts under old age and survivors' insurance. This can and should reduce appropriations to that extent. Another reason is the formula under which the Health and Welfare Department works, which are not matters of law but of regulations, are in my opinion too liberal. It is easy to work under liberal regulations. It is why we have them. Local advice is not sought by the Department. It can be available and it should be used.

General business conditions are better. People who might call on for old age assistance are working longer and earning higher wages. Both of these factors should reduce the number of applicants. The general public has a very direct interest in these funds. It is no improvement to keep on increasing these appropriations year after year if in so doing you put the taxpayer in such a position that he cannot continue to contribute. If the recipient's source of income fails then he is not improved at all.

I think each member of the Senate can prove to himself conclusively by just surveying his own neighborhood that the way the administration drifts with the tide in this matter of old age assistance is pathetic.

The reason the amount in the amendment for the second year is smaller than the first is because careful administration catching up and surveying the cases should gradually, under present business conditions reduce rather than increase the load.

Other states have recognized this change in conditions, this change in the federal law, and while we do have some flagrant examples, particularly in the South, of states using old age assistance as a gravy bowl, generally speaking many of the northern states are not as free and easy with old age assistance funds as are we. Some of the big states are reducing their appropriations under old age assistance rather than increasing them as we do.

Those are a few of the reasons that I offer Senate Amendment "E" and move its adoption; and move the amendment lie on the table.

The Secretary read Senate Amendment "E":

Senate Amendment "E" to L. D. 1196. Amend said bill by striking out under that part of said bill which relates to 'Health and Welfare, Department of' the following: 'Old Age Assistance — Benefits 3,215,325 3,411,825' and inserting in place thereof the following: 'Old Age Assistance — Benefits 2,900,000 2,800,000.'

Mr. ELA: Mr. President, it has been called to my attention that some of the members might want to talk on this amendment and I will withdraw my motion to table the amendment for the moment.

Mr. MCKUSICK of Piscataquis: Mr. President, I don't want to talk on this very extensively but do want to pass along to the members of the Senate a little information which perhaps they are not all acquainted with in regard to the old age assistance program. The first thing I wish to say is in regard to the matter of federal taxes. The money which goes out of the State of Maine in federal taxes is beyond our control. We must accept the fact as it is. I would also call to your attention the fact that the State of Maine is an old state in point of years. I don't know whether all of you know there are approximately 91,000 people in the State of Maine that are past 65 years of age. That is, approximately one person in ten of our population is past 65 years of age. I would also call attention that many are past 80 years of age and we would all be willing to recognize that they are past the age of earning money.

I would also call to your attention the division in the grant between the state and federal government. The federal government pays the first fifteen dollars out of the first twenty, and half of the next thirty. So out of a fifty dollar grant the federal government pays thirty dollars and the state pays twenty.

I would also call your attention to the fact it has been mentioned that we are having boom times. Boom times for other people are hard times for people living on old age assistance grants or other grants because the cost of everything they buy is higher.

I would also call to your attention that in many cases the local authorities are obliged to supplement those grants. It was called to my attention that in a nursing home in the city of Belfast there are several recipients of old age assistance. The cost in that home is about three dollars a day or ninety dollars a month. I was told that as far as it is now known, none of those people had relatives who were able to assist them, which means the State is putting in \$50 and the towns are contributing \$40. Now, if it is argued that these grants are too big, and should be cut down, it doesn't take a great deal of arithmetic to realize that if the state grant is cut down to \$40 the town must come along with \$50 to take care of the people.

I would call attention to the fact that in the month of January there were 469 cases where municipal officers were contributing. If we pass a period of inflation and high prices that number will be necessarily increased. These 80 year old people are not able to earn and they must be taken care of. Our State law provides that.

I make those observations so you may be considering them before the matter comes up for further discussion and action.

Mr. ELA of Somerset: Mr. President, I do not propose, in cutting the appropriation, that as a general thing grants be cut at all. My observation is that there are too many cases where relatives are not checked closely enough.

It has been called to my attention that either the figures were not read correctly or some members of the Senate misunderstood them. So that there may be no question about it, the figure for the first year of the biennium is \$2,900,000 and for the second year of the biennium \$2,800,000.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Ela of Somerset, Senate Amendment "E" was laid upon the table pending consideration.

The PRESIDENT: The next item relates to State Historian and the next to the Industrial Accident Commission, and then the next item is State Institutions.

Mr. LEAVITT of Cumberland: Mr. President, I think you will note in this appropriation there is an

increase of \$245,777 the first year and \$289,745 in the second year under Institutional Emergency Fund. It was the idea of the Appropriations Committee that most of the institutions had asked for more money this year because of the fact they believed they would need more employees these years and also because of the fact that there would be an increase in the cost of commodities, and therefore, we have set up this emergency fund which will take care of the increase in the cost of commodities if it materializes, and also will take care of the increased number of people that some of the institutions may have to hire if they can get them. We do feel instead of giving them the money outright that they can spend for anything that happens to come up, it would be much better to have them definitely prove the need and prove that prices are up and that they have the additional employees. Therefore, the departments will not go in the red if they can prove that these things have happened. But on the other hand, if prices through some miracle do not go up, and the institutions are so unfortunate that they cannot employ the people they want to employ, which they actually need, this money will not be in their budget where they can spend it.

The PRESIDENT: The next items relate to State Institutions, Department of Insurance, Commission on Interstate Cooperation, Department of Labor and Industry, Legislative, State Library, Maine Employment Security Commission, Maine Maritime Academy, Merit Award Board, State Park Commission, Baxter State Park Commission, Department of Personnel, State Police, Public Buildings, Public Utilities Commission, Bureau of Purchases, Racing Commission, Sea and Shore Fisheries, Reclassification of State Employees—

Mr. HASKELL of Penobscot: Mr. President, I have no amendment to offer with respect to Reclassification of State Employees. However, I would call to the attention of the Senate that the last legislature did appropriate a substantial sum of money to study this problem. We have all received what appears to

be an objective report, pointing out the fact that state employee wage levels are lower than in comparable private employment, and certainly before we close the door to amendments some one of us ought to consider in relation to these other amendments, at least going back to \$300,000. That figure, you will recall, was in the Governor's budget as the sum of money necessary to bring the employees somewhere near up to the October 1st living conditions cost. You also know in our legislative documents the State Employees group would have us come nearer to a realistic date by setting it still farther.

I think it also would be well for some member of the Appropriations Committee to read into the record the general policy with respect to state employees and state whether or not in the departmental budgets there is sufficient money to allow for normal merit increases during the two year period. I suspect it is true, but since this is an all-inclusive debate I think it is particularly important that that point be made clear in the record.

Mr. BREWER of Aroostook: Mr. President, regarding the item, "Reclassification of State Employees". In the Governor's recommendation—I think I am right on this—if we accepted the plan—one of the plans—it was retroactive to October. We did recommend the plan but we also recommended that the increase start from March 1st. Therefore, in this particular item there was a saving of \$300,000. In other words, it was cut from \$490,000 to \$190,000, which it will cost to put this plan into effect, but once this plan is put into effect and carried on we have found out that an item of \$500,000 a year must be provided to continue the merit increases and the schedule as recommended by this study, so in your deliberations it will be necessary to add to our recommendations over and above that, a half million dollars each year to take care of state employees.

Mr. LEAVITT of Cumberland: Mr. President, I would like to say that we are just hearing this bill this afternoon and it is coming in under a separate resolve and will be reported separately instead of in this bill.

The PRESIDENT: We come now to Secretary of State, Supreme Judicial and Superior Courts, Bureau of Taxation, Travel Bureau, Treasurer of State, Commissioners of Uniform Legislation, University of Maine—

Mr. COLLINS of Aroostook: Mr. President and members of the Senate, in the document that is before us the recommendation calls for \$818,596. This is one mill tax which has been in effect since 1930. The amount recommended by the Governor in his budget message, but not in the item here, as to the mill tax, recommended a further amount of \$500,000. Recognizing this fact, there is in the committee a legislative document covering \$500,000 for each year of the biennium in addition to the mill tax, and there is in the Committee on Education a bill authorizing an increase in the mill tax from one mill to one and three-quarters. Now, obviously both of those bills would not be necessary if the amount that the University of Maine is asking was included in the appropriation bill, and it would seem to me that it would be the proper place to include the additional funds asked for by the administration of the University, that is, to include it in the appropriation bill, and for that reason I now offer Senate Amendment "F" and move adoption:

The Secretary read Senate Amendment "F":

"Senate Amendment 'F' to L. D. 1196. Amend said bill by striking out that part which relates to 'University of Maine' and inserting in place thereof the following: 'University of Maine 1,318,596 1,318,586'."

Mr. COLLINS: Mr. President, this would increase the amount of the Appropriation bill by \$500,000 for each year of the biennium.

Mr. BARNES of Aroostook: Mr. President, I would like to inquire of the Senator from Aroostook, Senator Collins, for my benefit and the benefit of the other members of the Senate whether or not this increase he proposes would be dependent upon the passage of, or in addition to the mill tax so-called.

Mr. COLLINS: Mr. President, this would include the amount of

the mill tax. That is, the figure of \$1,318,596 include the amount mill tax. The information that was given before the Appropriations Committee as to expenditures and income I have at hand and would be glad to show it to any of the Senators who desire to see it.

On motion by Mr. Collins of Aroostook, Senate Amendment "F" was laid upon the table pending consideration.

The PRESIDENT: The next item is Division of Veterans Affairs, which completes the budget.

Mr. CROSBY of Franklin: Mr. President and members of the Senate, we have made a great deal more progress on this bill this morning than I had anticipated. Due to the fact we have been through this and because some of the delegations have luncheon engagements I will move the bill lie on the table.

Mr. LEAVITT of Cumberland: Mr. President, I was going to ask the Senator from Franklin, Senator Crosby, to defer the motion just a second.

Mr. CROSBY: I will be glad to withdraw my motion at this time.

Mr. LEAVITT: Mr. President and members of the Senate, now that the amendments have been presented and before the bill is put on the table I think it would be a good idea to suggest that a list of the amendments be made, showing how it will affect the general appropriation bill so that tomorrow we can have these figures on our desks.

Mr. HASKELL of Penobscot: Mr. President, I am sure there is a great deal of merit in the suggestion of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Leavitt, but for those who might wish to have a rough idea of where we stand, Senator Brewer has asked me to present at least what is my tabula-

tion of the things we have suggested this morning. If I have correctly interpreted each of these, Senator Leavitt has suggested \$200,000 a year for the Maine Development Commission. Senator Fuller: \$1,197,115 for the first year and \$1,185,600 the second year for Education. Senator McKusick: \$1,130,000 for the first year and \$1,154,000 for Welfare. Senator Crosby has suggested \$5,000 for each of the two years for Forestry. Senator Collins has suggested \$500,000 for each of the two years, for the University of Maine. If we start with the initial appropriation deficit of \$1,393,961 the first year and add thereto the sums suggested in these amendments you have an indicated deficit of \$4,426,076 the first year. The appropriation deficit of \$1,580,157 the second year has been increased by these amendments to \$4,724,757. If permitted, one of us will offer another amendment which will at least put the state employees on the same basis as the Governor's budget, which will bring the totals to \$4,726,076 and \$5,024,757, a sum substantially over \$10,000,000.

To present the picture completely, if the amendment of Senator Ela prevails then that figure will be reduced in the first year by the sum of \$1,445,325 and that \$10,000,000 will be reduced the second year \$1,765,825.

That, briefly, is the summary or tabulation that Senator Brewer and I have been running along as these amendments have been presented.

On motion by Mr. Crosby of Franklin, the bill was laid upon the table pending assignment for second reading.

On motion by Mr. Crosby of Franklin

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.